



Veterans Home - Chippewa Falls

12.01.2021 Veterans Home Weekly Family Updates

Dear Family & Friends -

While you may have heard that CMS's interim final rule requiring COVID-19 vaccination is on hold as of today, it is anticipated the mandate will go into effect as planned. The Veterans Home is proud to remain aligned with our core values by requiring our team members without religious or medical exemptions to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 before January 4, 2022.

COVID -19 Update:

One COVID-19 positive team member has been identified since our last update. One team member recovered recently. This means we currently have one active COVID-19 positive team member and no positive members.

Current & Cumulative COVID-19 Cases:

Current Active COVID-19 Confirmed Positive:	1 (One employee)
Current Active COVID-19 Suspected Positive:	0
Cumulative COVID-19 Confirmed Positive (since the Pandemic began in March 2020):	81 (twenty-five members, fifty-three employees, three contracted individuals)
Cumulative COVID-19 Suspected Positive (since the Pandemic began in March 2020):	2 (one member, one employee)
Total Recovered (since the Pandemic began in March 2020):	78 (twenty-two members, fifty-three employees, three contracted individuals)

We strive to always ensure member safety by keeping current with the federal and state guidelines. Clarification was received recently about visitation, as well as social distancing in relation to meals and activities. Our entire state of Wisconsin continues to be in high county transmission of COVID-19 and therefore we continue to need to ensure these practices are happening to keep everyone healthy, despite vaccination status. Additionally, please ensure you are following all core practices of infection control when you are with the members. This includes practices such as: wearing a mask at all times, having the member wear a mask when you are in their room, maintaining 6' of distance from the members, visiting in the member's room, screening in appropriately when you arrive, and sanitizing your hands often. For a full listing of requirements, please see the Accushield kiosk when you sign in to the Veterans Home.

Our comprehensive COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Response Plan is in place to help our team prioritize the health and safety of everyone who lives in and works at the Veterans Home. This plan includes:

- Requiring team members be vaccinated against COVID-19 while encouraging members and families to get the COVID-19 vaccine;
- Utilizing appropriate personal protective equipment, including a well-fitting face covering or mask that covers the mouth and nose;
- Screening and monitoring members, team members, and visitors for symptoms;
- Using alcohol-based hand rub regularly;
- Tracing individuals who come in contact with anyone affected;
- Testing members and team members based on federal and state guidance;
- Quarantining COVID-19 positive members and implementing enhanced infection control measures;
- Advising COVID-19 positive team members to take all appropriate measures;
- Taking environmental safety precautions, such as disinfecting high-touch surfaces and designated visitation areas after each visit;
- Assuring safe congregate dining and group activities with social distancing; and
- Adhering to safe visitation procedures, including maintaining six feet of distance between persons.

Please contact me at any time if you need assistance in getting vaccinated, finding a booster shot, or have questions. Thank you for your support!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Megan', with a stylized, cursive script.

Megan M. Corcoran, NHA | Administrator
Wisconsin Veterans Home at Chippewa Falls